

Remarks

Claims 1-8 and 21-28 are pending in this application. The Examiner has rejected each of claims 1, 7, 8, and 21 on obviousness grounds under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of the combination of Traveling Software “Laplink Professional User’s Guide” (“Traveling Software”) and U.S. Patent No. 6,345,294 to O’Toole. The Examiner has rejected each of claims 2-6 and 22-26 on obviousness grounds under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of the combination of Traveling Software, O’Toole, and U.S. Patent No. 6,493,770 to Sartore et al. Claims 27 and 28 are new claims that are added by this amendment.

The amendments above clarify a point of distinction between the pending claims and the prior art of record. The above amendments clarify the definition of the term “headless computer” such that that a headless computer is a computer that is not configured to include and does not include external and internal interface tools. The headless computer of the amended claims does not include any of the external interface tools, which are identified as a monitor, mouse, and keyboard. In addition, because the headless computer of the amended claims does not include a video card, the headless computer of the amended claims is not configured to include an internal interface tool. Thus, the headless computer of the amended claims is not configured to include and does not include interface tools. Because the headless computer of the claims does not include external or internal interface tools, the headless computer is less expensive as compared with other computers that include these tools. Through the use of the claimed invention, the headless computer of the present claims is as configurable, however, as a computer that includes a set of internal and external interface tools.

A. O'Toole Does Not Disclose a Headless Computer

O'Toole does not disclose a headless computer. At best, O'Toole discloses a “typical networking appliance product, which might or might not have a keyboard or monitor” (col. 1, lines 22-23). There is no mention of whether the “typical networking appliance product” of O'Toole is configured such that it also does not include a mouse and a video card. Because the “typical networking appliance product” of O'Toole “might or might not have a keyboard or monitor,” then it is also very likely that the “typical networking appliance product” of O'Toole will include a video card to support the monitor in the event that a monitor is coupled to the “typical networking appliance product.”

The best that can be said about O'Toole is that the “typical networking appliance product” of O'Toole may or may not include a monitor or keyboard. There is no mention in O'Toole about the lack of a keyboard or video card, although it is likely that a video card is included, the network appliance product of O'Toole has the option of being coupled to a keyboard or monitor. In contrast, the headless computer of the amended claims does not include a video card. As such, the headless computer of the amended claims of the invention *cannot be configured* in a manner that would provide for an operational monitor. As plainly delineated in each of the amended claims, the headless computer of the amended claims is truly headless in that the computer does not include and is not configured to include interface tools, including a video card. Thus, the configuration of the headless computer of the amended claims is distinct from the “typical networking appliance product” of O'Toole, “which might or might not have a keyboard or monitor” The amended claims of the present invention plainly specify that the computer is configured as a headless computer. The invention of the amended claims is different

from and distinct from the disclosure of O'Toole, which does not disclose a computer for configuration that lacks a set of external and internal interface tools.

B. Because The Prior Art Does Not Disclose or Suggest Each Limitation of the Rejected Claims, a Prima Facie Case of Obviousness is Not Established

Because the combination of Traveling Software and O'Toole does not teach or suggest each element of the rejected claims, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established and a rejection on obviousness grounds is improper. A prima facie case of obviousness requires a showing that all of the claim limitations of the rejected claims are taught or suggested by the prior art. Manual of Patent Examining Procedure 2143 and 2143.03. An obviousness rejection is improper if all of the elements of the claim are not taught or suggested in the asserted prior art references.

In addition, the establishment of a prima facie case of obviousness requires that *all* the claim limitations be taught or suggested by the prior art. MPEP 2143.01 (emphasis added). "All words of a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (CCPA 1970). All of the words of the amended claims are not suggested or disclosed by the prior art. In particular, O'Toole does not disclose a headless computer that is configured such that the computer does not include a monitor, keyboard, mouse, and video card. The disclosure of O'Toole is sufficiently limited that O'Toole does not disclose or suggest the configuration of a computer that lacks each of the interface tools (monitor, keyboard, mouse, and video card). Because all of the elements of independent claims 1 and 21 are not taught or suggested by the prior art combination identified by the examiner, a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established and the rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

C. Claims 2-9 and 22-28

Claims 2-9 and 22-28 will not be discussed individually as each of these claims depends, either directly or indirectly, from an otherwise allowable base claim. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn and these claims should be passed to issuance.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-9 and 21-28 of the present invention, as amended, are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments provided herein be entered. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn and that these claims, as amended, be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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